Research & Development Taskforce

Improving Patient Access to Medical Innovations : Securing Funding for the Clinical Trials National One Stop Shop

The Current Situation

- Australia's federated clinical trials environment is fragmented with states and territories (even individual area health services and hospitals) having different approval processes and systems for clinical trials.
- This fragmentation has been likened by our international colleagues to conducting trials in multiple countries and makes Australia less attractive for companies to conduct trials.
- This complex regulatory environment for trials in Australia can act as a barrier for companies looking for efficient and cost-effective locations.
- Australia is a good destination for clinical trials, with excellent healthcare facilities, researchers, a diverse population, and strong legal frameworks with robust IP protections.
- Harmonising these processes will ensure patients get access to the latest medical therapies and Australia remains globally competitive as an R&D destination, benefiting both Australian patients and the economy.

Retorm is needed now!

Time is of the essence!

The National One Stop Shop needs **appropriate and sustainable funding in the 2024–25 Budget** to improve patient access to the latest cutting-edge medical innovations, and so Australia can retain its global competitive advantage.

If we do nothing…

- Australian patients will have to wait longer or miss out on accessing new medical therapies.
- Clinical trial activity may decrease as companies prioritise conducting clinical trials in countries with more streamlined systems.
- Australia will miss out on the healthcare benefits and economic opportunities provided by clinical trials.

The Proposal: The National One Stop Shop

- Based on extensive consultation, the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare is proposing a national platform, known as the Clinical Trials **National One Stop Shop.** A proof-of-concept has been developed and demonstrated to key stakeholders.
- It will deliver one platform for approval processes as well as management across the full project life cycle, thereby removing the duplication and delays.
- By streamlining processes and reducing start-up timelines the platform will strengthen Australia's ability to attract and conduct more trials
- The platform will help patients more easily connect with and participate in clinical trials.

Benefits

- Provide faster access to cutting-edge medical therapies for Australian patients through clinical trials.
- Increase the number of clinical trials, which reduced healthcare costs through trial participation.
- Enhance the skills and capabilities of the Australian healthcare and research sector to benefit patients.
- Strengthen the international standing of local researchers and academics by contributing to multinational studies.
- Encourage greater inbound foreign investment in clinical trials and the broader health ecosystem, including creating more jobs in health and research.
- Make Australia's clinical trials and research sector more globally competitive.

The Research & Development Taskforce (RDTF) is a multi-sector collaboration between AusBiotech., Medicines Australia, and the Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA). The membership consists of R&D experts who offer unique industry perspectives to stakeholders across Federal and State Governments.

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